

**Exotic Ants (Pharaoh Ant)**

*Monomorium pharaonis*, Pharaoh Ant are around 2mm in length and yellow brown in colour. They have the ability to get into seemingly sealed containers and sterile dressings. They feed on high protein and sweet foods. A single queen can produce over 3000 eggs in its life and a colony often consists of multiple queens which spread out when the nest is under attack. Ants can carry disease and increase chance of infection to wounds.

**You must NOT spray Pharaoh’s Ants as this will spread them out and make it worse.**

**How do you know if you have Pharaoh Ants?**

* Small pale ants running in lines around kitchen.
* Ants in sugar and dressings or even baby formula.

**Preparation for treatment**

DO NOT spray or try any treatment as this will panic the nest and cause the queens to spread out increasing the number of nests and the extent of the problem even to the point of spreading them into neighbouring properties. It is also recommended that you contact your neighbours to ensure that if they are also affected that they seek professional treatment (we offer discounts on group or block treatments please contact us for further details.

**Treatment\* (**Prices available on our website or on request) Normally a treatment will involve:

* Initial assessment of pest to confirm species and type of treatment required.
* Locating ant runs / trails and sources of food.
* Treatment of the site with insect bait stations and gel. Please note that this treatment is designed to sterilise the queen and stop any further increase of ants and may seem to get worse before they die off.\*
* At the end of each visit we will provide a copy of our report stating our findings actions taken and recommendations for customer.
* Revisits within 8 weeks of end of treatment are included only if our recommendations are followed, visits after this time will be chargeable.

**\***Please note visits are 4 weeks apart to allow a chance for the ants to get the bait back to the nest and feed the queens.

**London Borough of Barnet - Pest Control Service**

**Terms and Conditions**

London Borough of Barnet (the Council) will use reasonable endeavours to ensure that:

* The pest control and management work are carried out in accordance with the latest and best industry codes of practice, conforming to all regulations and statutory requirements;
* Customers are provided with prompt and courteous service delivery; and
* Complaints are dealt with swiftly and satisfactorily.

All pest control treatments are carried out subject to these terms and conditions.

**The service and payment for service**

1. The Council shall use reasonable endeavours to undertake pest control investigation and/or treatment at the prices stated on the [fees and charges](https://www.barnet.gov.uk/environmental-problems/pest-control/book-pest-inspections-and-treatments) web page as updated from time to time by the Council.
2. The Council is a member of the British Pest Control Association, and all treatments are undertaken in accordance with industry best practice.
3. Payment for fixed price, domestic investigations and/or treatments must be made at the time of booking.
4. Payment can be made with a credit or debit card when enquiring [online](https://www.barnet.gov.uk/environmental-problems/pest-control/book-pest-inspections-and-treatments) or by telephone
(020 8359 7995). By placing an order with the Council you hereby agree to these terms and conditions.

**Cancellations, suspension and termination**

Your legal right to change your mind. You have 14 days after the date the Council confirms your order to change your mind about the purchase of the pest control services subject to this agreement but:

* You lose the right to cancel any service, when it has been completed (and you must pay for any services provided up the time you cancel).
* You cannot cancel a booking with less than one (1) working days’ notice.

The Council can stop providing a pest control service. The Council shall let you know at least two (2) working days in advance and the Council will refund any sums you've paid in advance for services which won't be provided.

The Council can end this agreement with you for the pest service and claim any compensation due to the Council if:

* you don't make any payment to the Council when it's due and you still don't make payment within 30 (thirty) days of the Council reminding you that payment is due;
* you don't, within a reasonable time of the Council asking for it, provide us with information, cooperation or access that the Council need to provide the service.

If the Council cannot attend due to unforeseen circumstances (e.g. adverse weather conditions, sickness, travel/transport issues) and the Council cannot offer a suitable appointment within two working days of your original appointment and treatment has not already started then the Council will offer a full refund.

Your legal right to change your mind. You have 14 days after the date the Council confirms your order to change your mind about the purchase of the pest control services subject to this agreement but:

* You lose the right to cancel any service, when it has been completed (and you must pay for any services provided up the time you cancel).
* You cannot cancel a booking with less than one (1) working days’ notice.

**The Council’s responsibilities**

1. The Council will inspect the site where safe to do so, and where possible provide the following:
	* Identification of pest;
	* The source of the infestation;
	* Identify entry points on the exterior of the property;
	* Advice on a recommended course of treatment;
	* Recommendations for pest proofing;
	* A brief written summery of key points.
2. The Council reserves the right to refuse or withdraw our service at any time if the Council suspects that there has been a breach of any health, safety or environmental guidance or if you fail to act in response to a written request from the Council.
3. The Council will not undertake any pest control treatment or other work at your premises without a responsible adult being present who is over 18 years old.
4. Except for liability that cannot be excluded by law, the Council shall not be liable for any loss, damage, or expense arising from any act, omission, or event (including negligence), whether direct or indirect, including loss of profits or business and all losses howsoever caused unless the loss, damage or injury was directly caused by negligence of the Council or its employees.
5. Upon completion of the treatment, the Council will remove any unused chemicals and any Council equipment.
6. The Council reserves the right to charge for any missing or damaged bait boxes, traps or similar equipment listed on the treatment report. Any charges may also apply if the Council are unable to recover this equipment from you. You will pay the Council all reasonable sums due on receipt of an invoice and within 30 (thirty) days of the Council’s invoice.
7. Where it is suspected that an infestation is being caused by a defect in the building structure or by actions/activities at the property you will be advised, and written recommendations will be given.

**Your responsibilities**

1. Keep children, livestock and pets away from pesticides, baits and traps. Do not disturb or otherwise interfere with pesticides, baits or traps.
2. Advise the Council’s pest control unit immediately of any interference with pesticides, baits or traps and/or where you suspect that there is a risk to persons, animals or the environment from the Council’s treatment.
3. Properly dispose of dead rodents or other pests from your property as required in accordance with the Council’s instructions.
4. Carry out any pre-treatment requirements in accordance with the Council’s instructions. The failure of you complying with these instructions may result in the Council refusing to carry of the treatment and you risk forfeiting the fees you have paid the Council.
5. Please take photos or collect samples of the pests where possible, in the case of suspected pest damage or droppings, please leave in place for the Council to see or if this is not possible place in a bag to show the Council.
6. Carry out the recommendations of the Council for treatment of your premises as further detailed in the Proofing Report.
7. Keep appointments with the Council or you risk forfeiting the fees you have paid the Council more fully described in the earlier part of these terms and conditions.

**General**

The Council are responsible for losses you suffer caused by us breaking this agreement unless the loss is:

* Unexpected. It was not obvious that it would happen and nothing you said to us before the Council accepted your order meant the Council should have expected it (so, in the law, the loss was unforeseeable).
* Caused by a delaying event outside the Council’s control. The Council will contact you as soon as possible to let you know and the Council will use reasonable endeavours to reduce the delay. As long as the Council inform you of this then the Council will not be liable for any losses caused.
* Avoidable. Something you could have avoided by taking reasonable action, including following the Council’s reasonable instructions for use.
* Losses in general. Except for liability that cannot be excluded by law, the Council shall not be liable for any loss, damage, or expense arising from any act, omission, or event (including negligence), whether direct or indirect, including loss of profits or business and all losses howsoever caused unless the loss, damage or injury was directly caused by negligence of the Council or its employees.

Changes the Council can always make. The Council can always change how it provides its pest control service:

* to reflect changes in relevant laws and regulatory requirements; and
* to make minor technical adjustments and improvements. These are changes that don't affect your use of the service.

The Council can transfer this agreement with you, so that a different organisation is responsible for supplying the pest control service.

You can only transfer this agreement with us to someone else if the Council agree to this.

Nobody else has any rights under this contract. This agreement is between you and the Council. Nobody else can enforce it and neither you or the Council will need to ask anybody else to sign-off on ending or changing it.

If a court invalidates some of this agreement, the rest of it will still apply. If a court or other authority decides that some of these terms are unlawful, the rest will continue to apply.

Even if the Council delay in enforcing this agreement, then the Council can still enforce it later. The Council might not immediately chase you for not doing something (like paying) or for doing something you're not allowed to, but that doesn’t mean the Council can't do it later.

You can go to court. These terms are governed by English law and wherever you live you can bring claims against us in the English courts.

**Complaints, comments, compliments**

If you have something to say about the pest service which the Council has provided, you can contact the Council in the following ways:

* **In writing:**
Pest Control Service, London Borough of Barnet,
2 Bristol Avenue, Colindale NW9 4EW
* **Telephone:** 020 8359 7799
* **Email:** pestcontrol@barnet.gov.uk
* **General Council Complaints:** Via our [www.barnet.gov.uk/complaints](http://www.barnet.gov.uk/complaints)

**Data retention**

A copy of the London Borough of Barnet’s Privacy Notice can be found on the [website](https://www.barnet.gov.uk/your-council/policies-plans-and-performance/privacy-notices).